

Walsall Council – Health and Wellbeing Board

19 March 2024

Better Care Fund Q3 Report

For Assurance

1. Purpose

This update will retrospectively inform members of details contained within the Better Care Fund (BCF) Quarter 3 Reporting template, as per national requirements. Agreed retrospective reporting is in place with delegated authority to Place Integrated Commissioning Committee (PICC) to support national submission dates, which fall outside Board meeting dates.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Health and Wellbeing Board retrospectively receives and agrees the BCF Quarter 3 Reporting template following national submission in February 2024 as per national assurance.

3. Report detail

Background

- 3.1 The BCF 2023-2025 Policy Framework, reaffirms a clear direction for the fund to be one of the government's national vehicles for driving health and social care integration.
- 3.2 The BCF vision over 2023-2025 is to support people to live healthy, independent and dignified lives. National leads continue to prioritise integration as key driver, through joint approaches between health and social care, with a new emphasis on housing services to wrap seamlessly around the individual. To ensure alignment, the vision underpins two core BCF objectives:
- Enable people to stay well, safe and independent at home for longer
 - Provide the right care in the right place at the right time - making sure people are supported with a discharge to the right place, at the right time, and with the right support that maximises their independence.

Quarter 3 2023/24 Return

- 3.3 The five metrics within the Quarter 3 reporting template agreed as part of the planned BCF targets for 2023-2024 include:
- Unplanned hospitalisations for chronic ambulatory care sensitive conditions
 - Proportion of hospital discharges to a person's usual place of residence
 - Admissions to long term residential or nursing care for people over 65
 - Reablement outcomes (people aged over 65 still at home 91 days after discharge from hospital to reablement or rehabilitation at home)

- Emergency hospital admissions for people over 65 following a fall.

3.4 The NHS metrics namely discharge to place of residence and avoidable admissions have been determined based on Integrated Care Board (ICB) baselines for a consistent approach across the Black Country. Social Care ambitions have been set as per Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework (ASCOF) measures.

All metrics are on track to meet target at Quarter 3.

3.5 The spend and activity reporting represents cumulative spend and outputs in the year to date for specific BCF schemes for 2023-24. The expenditure and actual numbers of outputs delivered are therefore reported to the end of the third quarter (1 April to 31 December).

No implementation issues have been noted for spend and activity at Quarter 3.

Key Messages to Note Q3 2023/24 Update	Walsall Place BCF Programme – Quarter 3 Return FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/2024																				
Metrics Summary	<p>All metrics are on track to meet target.</p> <p>Summary of main challenges and achievements for each metric:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="435 1050 1469 1648"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="435 1050 778 1093">Metric</th> <th data-bbox="778 1050 1121 1093">Challenges</th> <th data-bbox="1121 1050 1469 1093">Achievements</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="435 1093 778 1279">Avoidable admissions</td> <td data-bbox="778 1093 1121 1279">Winter pressures</td> <td data-bbox="1121 1093 1469 1279">Virtual wards at Care Navigation Centre supporting reduction in hospital admissions and length of stay</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="435 1279 778 1391">Discharge to Normal Place of Residence</td> <td data-bbox="778 1279 1121 1391">Demand on service</td> <td data-bbox="1121 1279 1469 1391">Care home support teams reducing readmissions</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="435 1391 778 1462">Falls</td> <td data-bbox="778 1391 1121 1462">No dedicated falls service</td> <td data-bbox="1121 1391 1469 1462">Focusing on an integrated approach</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="435 1462 778 1534">Residential admissions</td> <td data-bbox="778 1462 1121 1534">Variation in Residential care fees</td> <td data-bbox="1121 1462 1469 1534">Below ASCOF outcomes</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="435 1534 778 1648">Reablement</td> <td data-bbox="778 1534 1121 1648">Increase in readmissions</td> <td data-bbox="1121 1534 1469 1648">High number of discharges returning home via Pathway 1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Metric	Challenges	Achievements	Avoidable admissions	Winter pressures	Virtual wards at Care Navigation Centre supporting reduction in hospital admissions and length of stay	Discharge to Normal Place of Residence	Demand on service	Care home support teams reducing readmissions	Falls	No dedicated falls service	Focusing on an integrated approach	Residential admissions	Variation in Residential care fees	Below ASCOF outcomes	Reablement	Increase in readmissions	High number of discharges returning home via Pathway 1
Metric	Challenges	Achievements																			
Avoidable admissions	Winter pressures	Virtual wards at Care Navigation Centre supporting reduction in hospital admissions and length of stay																			
Discharge to Normal Place of Residence	Demand on service	Care home support teams reducing readmissions																			
Falls	No dedicated falls service	Focusing on an integrated approach																			
Residential admissions	Variation in Residential care fees	Below ASCOF outcomes																			
Reablement	Increase in readmissions	High number of discharges returning home via Pathway 1																			
Spend and Activity Summary	<p>All schemes are on target and no implementation issues have been noted.</p> <p>All schemes are reporting on target for expenditure. The reporting data for actual outputs is not always reflective of this as activity data is merged or reported in a different way by the service provider. The BCF Manager is reviewing the type of data available for future reporting, this has been discussed and accepted by the BCF Regional manager.</p>																				

4. Implications for Joint Working arrangements:

Partners in Adult Social Care, Black Country ICB Walsall Place, Walsall Healthcare Trust and our main provider service for Intermediate Care have contributed to the completion of the BCF Quarter 3 return by providing data on metrics and activity.

4.1 Financial implications:

At Quarter 3 reporting, an overspend remains as a pressure for the programme following increased capacity, demand and complexity. As part of risk management, monitoring of this pressure remains at PICC level.

4.2 Legal implications:

A Section 75 Agreement is in place for the BCF.

As part of risk management, the current risk share agreement under the Section 75 is being reviewed by PICC.

5. Health and Wellbeing Board Priorities - impact:

- 5.1 The programme supports the local approach to a healthy population, by aligning the outcome of supporting the independence to older people.

Background papers

None

Appendices:

Appendix 1: **Better Care Fund Quarter 3 2023/24 Submission**

Author

Nina Chauhan-Lall – Better Care Fund Manager
Walsall Council and Black Country ICB, Walsall Place

☎ 01922 653739

✉ nina.chauhan-lall@walsall.gov.uk